

Summer  
2014

# C.A.R.E. Newsletter

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District  
Association of Retired Employees

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## President's Corner

*As Education then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is a great equalizer of conditions of men—the balance wheel of the social machinery. Horace Mann*

It is my pleasure to welcome Chabot/Las Positas District retirees to the CARE Newsletter. In January we had a large and well fed turn out for our annual luncheon and business meeting, where three new directors were elected (see article on p. 5). In this newsletter you will find news and information about our two colleges and district as well as information about retirement issues. The focus of this Presidents Corner will be on funding future retirement.



The news on the retirement front is rather murky. The State legislature has ignored CalPERS and CalSTRS recommendations and “kicked the can” on funding to some future date, perhaps 2015-16. According to all parties investments alone are not enough to keep these two programs afloat. CalPERS posted a 16.2% earnings on investment while CalSTRS showed a 13.8% return. Both programs have historically earned 7% average over the past 20 years. The assumption is that they will continue to earn at that rate or higher. But, as inflation and COLA affect earnings, increased contributions from future retirees, districts and the state will be needed.<sup>1</sup>

The average CalSTRS member in 2010-11 retired at age 62 and performed over 25 years of service, earned a pension that replaces about 55% of salary. Employer contributions (8.25%) have not changed since 1990 and employees' (8%) since 1972 while state contributions stand at about 5.2%. There has been no definitive discussion of increased employer and state contributions. However, CalSTRS rumor says there will be an approximate 2-3% increase for each segment.

The average CalPERS member retires at approximate 62.2 years and receives a monthly allowance of \$2,629. The member is not going to get rich on that! To address the shortfall in underfunded liability beginning on January 1, 2018, CalPERS has announced that school employers may increase employee contributions by up to 8% from the current 3.8% if they reach impasse on collective bargaining agreements. AB340 mandates that members enrolled after January 1, 2013 should provide for 50% of their retirement!<sup>2</sup>

While none of these changes will affect current retirees, we need to support those who follow us into retirement if education is to continue to be a driving force in the economy.

The media likes to exploit state workers for their news worthiness while Wall Street exploiters seek to eliminate Defined Benefits programs and to force working families to risk their retirement savings in volatile stock market programs. We need to be aware of attacks on Defined Benefits and clarify the issues for friends and neighbors.

Chet Rhoan, CARE President

- References: 1. [www.faccc.org/images/pension\\_reform13nov.pdf](http://www.faccc.org/images/pension_reform13nov.pdf)  
2. [www.calpers.ca.gov/eip-docs/about/pubs/prelim-analysis.pdf](http://www.calpers.ca.gov/eip-docs/about/pubs/prelim-analysis.pdf)



# CHABOT COLLEGE NEWS

*Shanon Christiansen Reporting*

**50th Anniversary.** As Chabot College looks ahead to 2015, the college will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. The college began offering classes in 1965 in temporary facilities in San Leandro with Dr. Reed Buffington as Superintendent-President.

**Executive Director of the Friends of Chabot Foundation.** Dr. Maria Ochoa has been appointed Executive Director of the Friends of Chabot Foundation and Director of Development. She is an alum of Chabot College, was a commencement speaker in 2004, and was a mentor for the Puente Project when it began in 1981.



*Dr. Maria Ochoa*

**New Staff Positions.** With a brighter financial future due to an additional 100 million dollars to support student equity programs state wide and a three percent funding for growth, Chabot will be hiring nine new full-time tenure track positions as well as a number of key classified positions including a Director of Student Life, an Institutional Research Analyst, a position in Student Services, an Administrative Assistant, a Web Master, and a Learning Assistant Coordinator.

**Building Renovations and Landscaping.** The college is moving forward on building projects. The renovations include: biology lab facilities, science lecture classrooms, and a major renovation of the first floor of building 100 as well as the renovation of the library. The college also has a project to renovate the landscaping along Hesperian Blvd. which will include a new double sided electronic sign nearly 4 feet high and 12 feet long. Landscaping will also be enhanced between building 1700 and 1800 with plant species not located elsewhere on campus and serve as an outdoor classroom

**Staff Retirements.** A luncheon was held on May 7th for the 12 staff members retiring this year.

**Tenured Faculty.** The College held an event on March 6th celebrating the 15 faculty who were awarded tenure.

**Accreditation.** The college has been busy completing the Annual Accreditation Report concerning the educational achievements of students and how those goals were addressed. An annual Fiscal Report was also completed. In the process, the college has developed a new Mission Statement which was approved by the Trustees and is on the college's web site.

## 2014 CARE Reunion Photos

Photos taken by Don Nilson, CARE Photographer, are now available on our website: [www.care-news.org](http://www.care-news.org). Choose **Reunion** from the top main menu.



## New Retirees

- Sandra Ashburn, Las Positas College, January 2014
- Larry Cain, Chabot College, June 2014
- Jane Church, Chabot College, June 2014
- Carey Harbin, Chabot College, June 2014
- Lorenzo Iriate, Chabot College, April 2014
- Shari Jacobsen, Chabot College, July 2014
- Marcia Kolb, Chabot College, June 2014
- Naoma Mize, Chabot College, June 2014
- Monica Munger, Chabot College, May 2014
- Cynthia Ross, Las Positas College, June 2014
- Julie Segedy, Chabot College, July 2014
- Ernesto Victoria, Chabot College, June 2014
- Burnierose Wilson, Chabot College, June 2014

## Deceased

- Mary Lou Kufeld, District Office, March 2014

# LAS POSITAS COLLEGE NEWS

*Sophie Rheinheimer Reporting*

Hello Everyone! For the past few years, my reports have been about the growth and physical changes of the college. Now that the 'build-out' of the college is complete, some of you may be wondering "Who's still there?" I caught-up with eight of our former colleagues and convinced them to write a short 'blurb' about themselves and join me in a group photo! Great Fun!!! (I'll catch other colleagues in later issues.)



Carol Edson: "I came to LPC in 2001. I am still the 'rock wrangler' for Geology/Oceanography labs. I love creating new materials, including geologic maps for the students to use for practice. I walk around campus daily, and take bird photos."

Sharon Davidson: "I have been here 16 years - which is longer than anyone in Human Resources. During my time here my family has grown to five grandchildren. I love my new office in the Student Services Admin. building but I miss the closeness to people that we once had in the 100 building. I'm still working with the payroll and hiring processes, making sure everyone is on track to getting a paycheck. When I need a break, I go downstairs to our new cafeteria and get a Starbucks Latte."

Barbara Zingg: "I was hired in 1997 (OMG, I cannot believe it has been that long ago!...) to start the nursing prerequisite program at LPC. Since then, the program has grown tremendously.... Two years ago, we also received a new science building with four Biology labs and four classrooms (not just for biology). I love the new science building! I now mostly teach medical Microbiology and some Physiology. I am also still involved in the fee-based Surgical Technology program I helped to pull off the ground about five years ago."

Andi Schreiber: "I started working at LPC June of 1987... I'm now healthier than I've ever been in my adult life as I had very successful weight loss surgery November of 2010, and I've truly never felt better. I am still employed as LPC's Financial Aid Officer, and am pleased to report that my office has finally grown to include four Financial Aid Specialists!"

Teri Henson: "I began as a part-time math faculty member in 1998 and was hired full time in 2000. After 5 years of chairing the Program Review Committee (in its various incarnations), I'm feeling a bit frayed around the edges. I am really looking forward to my one year sabbatical starting in fall of 2014."

Debbie Earney began working in the Admissions and Records Office in December, 1984: "I am doing well and have enjoyed working with students and everyone on campus for the past 30 years."

Frances Hui: "I started working at LPC in 2000 and was so fortunate to be able to work with Aileen Furuyama, Barbara Hardy, and Peggy Carter. I learned how to be a better librarian from the best! The library has been busy with many ongoing projects. The most notable is that the library will be remodeled starting this summer and projected to reopen in January 2015. The library will have a cozy home in Building 700 temporarily."

Nan Ho: "I started teaching part-time in 1994 and full-time in 1995. I still love teaching and have seen the biology department grow tremendously. I miss my colleague Karen Pihl, who retired and seems to be traveling all the time! In the last several years, I have been busy organizing the LLNL/LPC Science and Engineering Seminar Series and the Undergraduate Science Research Poster Session, and being advisor to the energetic and enthusiastic Biology Club."

## Public Pension Records



Ever wonder how your retirement pension compares with others? **Transparent California** provides a fascinating glimpse at public salaries and pensions, including pensions for STRS & PERS retirees in a searchable database at [transparentcalifornia.com](http://transparentcalifornia.com)

## Meet Your Board Members - Art Tenbrink

Comfortable? OK, Enjoy these selected scenes from CARE's "Meet Your Board: Art Tenbrink's Chabot-Las Positas Career Highlights".

Scene 1, 1967: Recent Hayward High graduate, Art walks onto Chabot's new campus and into Counselor *Paul Broderick's* office. "I want a college education, but Vietnam looms and I'm not sure of my future. Counselor *Broderick* tells how his WWII Navy experience lead him to choose counseling as a second career and he helps Art into a Career Planning course. This begins his lifelong quest to "think globally and act locally."

Scene 2, 1974: Consulting with Chabot's Director of Community and Social Service Programs *Bob Wood*, Art says:

"In the last two years I've seen more family trauma in my child welfare work in Hayward than in two previous years doing similar work with the Peace Corps in rural Brazil. I believe I have something for your students to use to protect our most vulnerable – and valuable human resource - our children. I'm willing to turn my Master's Thesis work into a new Child Abuse Prevention course for the College. You know half the calls first responders receive are to quell family violence. We can teach them research-backed methods to affect positive family interventions."

"If only we had enough students to pilot such a course," says Bob.

Art takes the bait, acts locally and gets Hayward Police recruits to fill the first section which he then teaches. Four decades later AJ 59 is still in Chabot's curriculum.

Scene 3: June, 1975: Art listens to (then) Chabot's Valley Campus Dean of Instruction *Don Milanese*. "The Don" is animated, hands busy in the air outlining a new program of college classes to be offered to inmates:

"BOB recommended you as an Adjunct to teach Psych-Counseling courses at the Santa Rita Rehab Center. He said you're resourceful."

In 1978 when Proposition 13 put an end to the Inmates' Re-entry Program, Art continued to teach and counsel evenings at Valley Campus.

Scene 4: August, 1980: Art takes notes as Valley's Dean *Barbara Mertes* describes a full-time Counseling Faculty position naming him "Our man in Havana." As such he would coordinate high school recruitment in the Tri-Valley as well as work the range of Psych-Counseling faculty duties. When Art agrees, she coaches him how to conduct myself during his final interview with President *Reed Buffington*. In *Reed's* office Art wisely remembers to sit straight up, but in the lower chair.

Scene 5, 1980 – 2006: Chabot-Valley grows into Las Positas College, and Art grows his Instructor-Counselor skills apace during the most exciting times for Community Colleges in California. (Cut the scene in Sacramento where, as California Community College Counselors Association President, Art works alongside other key community college leaders to secure a fare share of higher ed. dollars for CC students in tight budget times. Leave in the scene alongside a handful of dedicated LPC counselors that includes Student Services Dean *Dee Roshong*. Leave in the scene in which *Dee* encourages Art's first sabbatical to spearhead a Peer Counseling Program, and later design and teach a PSCN Certificate in Human Services.)

Current Scene: Art and his loving spouse, Joan, relax by their new camp-trailer and gently direct their newborn grand-daughter, Kiana's attention to the eagle fishing over Del Valle Lake. They are sharing memories and hopes to live globally in peace and to live each day fully. They celebrate new life (and future Chabot-LPC'er?) with gratitude and vision for a better tomorrow through CARE.



### New in the CARE History Project:

Great new contributions:

***The Beard***, by Dick Albert and ***The Last of the Chabotozos*** by Carey Harbin.

Read them at [www.care-news.org](http://www.care-news.org). Choose **History Project** from the top main menu.

## CARE Fund - What is it?

We are a small organization, and your contributions make our work possible. Our regular operations are funded by **Annual Dues**, which pay expenses for website operation, office materials, postage, etc. All dues are used in direct support of our programs; there are no stipends or benefits paid to board members, who volunteer their time and service.

Special donations support the **CARE Fund**, our charitable fund that is dedicated to providing an extra measure of support to the colleges in the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District. Your CARE Fund donations are deposited in our dedicated account in the Chabot-LPC Foundation, where the principal is conserved for the future. Each year, the earnings of the CARE Fund permit philanthropic contributions to the colleges. Currently, these contributions are being allocated through the CARE Special Projects Grants Program.

Your CARE Fund contributions are fully tax-deductible under federal and California law. The Foundation for Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, Inc. is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization. (EIN: 237074515)

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Dr. Clyde Allen, CARE Fund  
1463 Indian Head Circle  
Clayton, CA 94517-1239

**CARE Fund Special Projects Grants.** Our Special Projects Grant program awards a portion of our charitable CARE Fund earnings to start special projects that help employees do a better job of serving students, staff, and the colleges. Here are the titles of the winning grant proposals we funded for 2013-2014: Dental Hygiene Community Outreach, Collection of Children's Books, Business Lending Library, Children's Garden Center Project, CalWORKs Children's Play/Waiting Area, Cabinet for Fossil Quiz Materials, Free Standing White Boards for Tutorial Center, ESL Extensive Reading Library. To learn more about the program, visit [www.care-news.org/grants/](http://www.care-news.org/grants/).



### New Directors Join CARE Board

We are pleased to announce the election of Art Tenbrink, Dee Roshong, and Tom Gerrits to the CARE board. Art and Dee worked in Counseling faculty and administration at Las Positas College, while Tom served the District as Assistant Manager of Management Information Services. CARE is delighted to add their energies and skills to our diverse Board of Directors, which is now stronger than ever. Welcome!

## Retiree News

**Russell Breslauer** has gained notice as a line dance choreographer. *Linedancer Magazine* has published more than 30 titles for which he choreographed the dance script! View a YouTube video of Little West Texas Waltz, choreographed by Russell Breslauer at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfQThIKa3EM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfQThIKa3EM)



**David Perry** spent many years playing clarinet with bands and orchestras while at Chabot College. Prior to learning the clarinet, David studied accordion from age six to seventeen. Despite much early success including appearances on TV in the early 1950's, David put the accordion in the closet when he left for college and didn't play it again until about five years ago. He's currently performing with AbsolutAccord, a group of seven professional accordionists from all over the Bay Area. Check them out at [absolutaccord.com/](http://absolutaccord.com/)

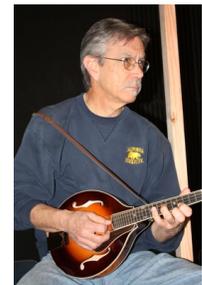
As a former Chabot College Speech Instructor, **Ed Cates** is applying his interpersonal and language skills as a realtor with Coldwell Banker C&C Properties in northern California. One of his current listings is offered at \$3,000,000! View Ed's listings at [www.northstatehomes.com/agent/property-list.asp?CEO\\_AgentCode=ed-c](http://www.northstatehomes.com/agent/property-list.asp?CEO_AgentCode=ed-c)



**Lindell Bruce** now lives in both San Francisco and Tokyo, where he provides individual tutoring in English. He describes himself as an avid student of Japanese language and culture who has studied formally at Soko Gakuen Japanese Language School in San Francisco and at the Daita Volunteer Center in Setagaya-ku. Lindell is also an active volunteer with the San Francisco SPCA and was recognized by the SPCA during their 2012 Volunteer Appreciation Month. Learn more about the SPCA Volunteer program at <http://www.sfspca.org/get-involved/volunteer>

Although **Dennis Chowenhill** retired in 2009, he served as Musical Director for the 2011 Chabot College production of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*. From the Program, view Dennis' music notes, at [chabotcollegegrapesofwrath.wordpress.com/category/music-of-the-1930s/](http://chabotcollegegrapesofwrath.wordpress.com/category/music-of-the-1930s/)

Continuing his theatrical pursuits, Dennis has become Resident Dramaturg for the Virago Theater Company in Berkeley, working on a 2013 production of *Sonia Flew*, and the 2014 productions of *Il Trovatore* and *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom and Sleeping Beauty or Coma*. Learn more at [www.viragotheatre.org/company.html](http://www.viragotheatre.org/company.html)



**Dennis and Irene Plunket Chowenhill** are seen briefly in KQED's April 10, 2014 *Check Please Bay Area* review of San Leandro's Paradiso Restaurant. View the program at [blogs.kqed.org/checkplease/2014/04/10/paradiso-restaurant-info/](http://blogs.kqed.org/checkplease/2014/04/10/paradiso-restaurant-info/)

**We want to share your retirement story!** Please send information to the [newsletter editor](#).

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**New on the CARE web site:**

- [The Beard](#), a new History Project piece by Dick Albert
- [The Last of the Chabotozos](#), a new History Project piece by Carey Harbin
- [2014 Application for the CARE Special Grants Program](#)
- More than a dozen [Photos from 2014 CARE Reunion](#)
- Links to [Transparent California public pension data for CLPCCD](#)



**Featured on the CARE web site:**

[The History Project](#). Have you checked out the History page? Here are a few examples of the documents and stories you'll find there:

- Dr. Ted Staniford's book, *Chabot College: The First Twenty Years*
- 35 Historical pieces contributed by CARE members
- An Interview with Dr. Reed L. Buffington, First President of Chabot College
- A photographic history

To visit the History page, just select **History Project** from the top main menu at [www.care-news.org](http://www.care-news.org).

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